

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 4

Fall Announcement # 4, District 1 Commercial Period 2

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The Yukon Area began Fall Season management in the lower river districts on July 16. Based on a 2013 summer chum salmon run of approximately 2.6 million fish, the projected fall chum salmon run size is greater than 900,000 fish. This level of abundance should be adequate to meet escapement and subsistence priorities and provide for commercial harvest. Both summer and fall chum salmon are currently entering the river. Commercial fishing in the lower river at this transition time would likely harvest a mixture of both stocks.

District Y-1

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** of District Y-1 on Monday, July 22 from 3:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period for the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

The remainder of District Y-1 will be open to commercial fishing on Monday, July 22 from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. This will be a 6-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

For the entire District Y-1, no Chinook salmon can be sold during this commercial opening. Fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. **Chinook salmon caught but not sold must be reported on fish tickets.**

The District Y-1 and the Set Net Only Area boundaries were redefined by the Board of Fisheries during the 2013 AYK meeting (see map included). Acharon Channel and the coastal waters adjacent to the south mouth of the Yukon River from Chris Point to Black River are now included in the District Y-1 Set Net Only Area.

In Districts Y-1, subsistence salmon fishing is now open during the fall season 7 days per week except for 12 hours before, during, and 12 hours after each commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to a maximum mesh size of 7.5 inches. In District Y-1 subsistence salmon fishing will close at 3:00 a.m. Monday, July 22, and reopen at 12:00 noon Tuesday, July 23.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 and 459-7387 (toll free outside of Fairbanks 1-866-479-7387). If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320 or the Fairbanks office at 459-7274. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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YUKON RIVER DELTA

